

Introduced by Senator DunnFebruary 24, 2006

An act relating to public utilities.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1753, as introduced, Dunn. Public Utilities.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities. The existing Public Utilities Act, prohibits any person or corporation from acquiring or controlling, directly or indirectly, any public utility organized and doing business in this state, without first securing authorization to do so from the commission. The act additionally prohibits any person or corporation from acquiring or controlling, directly or indirectly, any public utility organized and doing business in this state, without first securing authorization to do so from the commission.

This bill would require the commission, by July 1, 2007, to report to the Legislature on how repeal of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 could adversely impact California consumers and any steps the state should undertake to mitigate negative impacts.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
- 2 following:
- 3 (a) The federal Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935
- 4 (15 U.S.C. Sec. 79 and following) was enacted to provide certain
- 5 protections to customers of public utility companies and provided
- 6 substantial protections for approximately 70 years.

1 (b) The federal Energy Policy Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-58)
2 repealed the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935,
3 creating the possibility of adverse impacts on California
4 consumers.

5 (c) It is the intention of the Legislature to examine the extent
6 to which the loss of the protections of the Public Utility Holding
7 Company Act of 1935 may put California consumers at risk, and
8 to enact statutory protections that mitigate any negative impacts.

9 SEC. 2. The commission shall, on or before July 1, 2007,
10 report to the Legislature on how repeal of the Public Utility
11 Holding Company Act of 1935 (15 U.S.C. Sec. 79 and
12 following) could adversely impact California consumers and any
13 steps the state should undertake to mitigate negative impacts.